

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SYDNEY 02352 050707Z

21-12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 PA-03

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OC-06 CCO-00 DRC-01 L-03 USPS-02

/084 W

----- 020295

R 050630Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4897

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

UNCLAS SYDNEY 2352

EO 11652 NA

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, AS

SUBJ: STRIKES AND SLOWDOWNS CONTINUE IN SYDNEY

REF: SYDNEY 2331

SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH POSTAL SLOWDOWN HAS ENDED, AIRPORT  
AND POWER STRIKES CONTINUE AND NET EFFECT IS NO SIGN  
OF LET UP.

1. POSTAL UNION EMPLOYEES HAVE AGREED TO END THEIR  
BAN ON OVERTIME FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH POSTMASTER  
GENERAL BOWEN, ON THE BASIS OF A TEMPORARY COMPROMISE  
ON COMPULSORY VERSUS VOLUNTARY OVERTIME WITH AN  
ASSURANCE THAT BOWEN WOULD EXAMINE THE PROBLEM.  
ALTHOUGH THE POST OFFICE IS BACK AT WORK FULL STRENGTH,  
OVERTIME INCLUDED, IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE AT LEAST TEN  
DAYS TO CLEAN UP THE BACKLOG OF SOME 16 MILLION PIECES.

2. SYDNEY AIRPORT REMAINS CLOSED AS TALKS BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE ARBITRATOR YESTERDAY FAILED. ONE  
QANTAS FLIGHT WAS ALLOWED TO LEAVE SYDNEY ONLY  
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FOR THE PURPOSE OF FERRYING SOME 140 QANTAS EMPLOYEES

TO MELBOURNE TO HANDLE TEMPORARY PILE-UP THERE. IN  
T.V. APPEARANCE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT JONES SPOKE DIS-  
APPROVINGLY OF THE STRIKE BY PROFESSIONAL RADIO EMPLOYEES  
BUT GAVE NO INDICATION OF POSSIBLE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
ACTION TO END STRIKE. WHEN ASKED WHY THE FEDERAL GOVERN-  
MENT DOES NOT INVOKE THE PENAL PROVISIONS OF THE ARBITRA-  
TION LAW AGAINST THE UNION, HE COUNTERED BY ASKING WHEY  
THE LIBERAL/COUNTRY PARTY GOVERNMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
DOES NOT INVOKE THE PENAL PROVISIONS OF ITS LAW AGAINST  
THE ELECTRICITY WORKERS IN SYDNEY. IT APPEARS SYDNEY  
AIRPORT MAY REMAIN CLOSED FOR SOMETIME TO COME.

3. STATUS ELECTRIC POWER STRIKE REPORTED SEP TEL.  
HANNAH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR STRIKES, POSTAL SERVICE, LABOR UNIONS, ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY, AIRPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SYDNEY02352  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SYDNEY  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731046/aaaabhxd.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SYDNEY 2331  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02-Nov-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by smithrj>  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STRIKES AND SLOWDOWNS CONTINUE IN SYDNEY  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PINT, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005